

Gwenn Rosenberg
230 cove rd
Stonington, CT 06378
HB 5537

March 12, 2014

Dear CT PHC Testimony,

Dear Senator Gerrata, Representative Johnson, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee:

I write to ask you to strongly support and vote in the affirmative to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic physician scope of practice to HB 5537. The language needs to be attached to this bill so it can come before the Public Health Committee for consideration. This Naturopathic scope of practice law is 90 years old and has not kept pace with the significant advances in education and training of Naturopathic doctors in the ensuing decades.

I am a practicing naturopathic doctor. When I was practicing in Oregon with full prescribing rights, I was able to act as a primary care physician. My training in nutrition and preventive medicine allowed me to go beyond treating a person's chief complaint to help them avoid developing chronic diseases. I would like to be able to prescribe blood pressure medications and diabetes medications because I work with many patients who are on these medications and I help them prevent complications or worsening of their conditions. With this type of prevention, naturopathic doctors like myself can help reduce health care costs and help people function better in their homes and in their workplaces.

All naturopathic doctors are trained in pharmacology and prescribing. If we get prescribing rights, we can step up and help Connecticut face the upcoming shortage of primary care physicians. Thank you in advance for considering this bill.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,
Gwenn Rosenberg